



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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PAM 'Horried' Over UN Decision on French Troops

*EA2306200394 Nairobi KNA in English 1650 GMT
23 Jun 94*

[All quotation marks as received]

[Excerpts] Kampala, 23 Jun (PANA)—The global Pan-African Movement (PAM) has reacted angrily to Wednesday [22nd June]'s endorsement, by the United Nations Security Council, of France's initiative to lead a humanitarian force into Rwanda. "It is with horror and shocked disbelief that we heard that the UN secretary general, Dr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali, has recommended to the UN Security Council to accept the French offer of military intervention in Rwanda supposedly to stop the continuing massacre of civilians," said a statement issued by PAM secretariat Thursday in Kampala.

The statement dated 22nd June and signed by Dr Taj al-Din 'Abd- al-Rahim, the PAM general secretary, said the organization is horrified because it could not believe that Ghali [as received] could recommend the intervention against the background of "similar unilateralist military intervention by the United States in Somalia and the tragic consequences of that misadventure."

"It will seem to us that both Dr. Ghali and the United Nations cannot learn from one mistake. Maybe the UN secretary general thinks two tragic mistakes are better than one. But at what cost?" The statement asks.

The release says PAM is shocked because the secretary general is an African with decades of political experience both as foreign minister and prime minister of Egypt. "With that experience one would have thought he would be better informed in advising the United Nations and the Security Council to be cautious and sensitive to the needs and concerns of Africans." [passage omitted]

PAM accused the UN secretary general of taking decisions on Africa saying "his stewardship at the United Nations so far, has witnessed the most insensitive and outrageous decisions on matters concerning Africa, of which his current endorsement of French military intervention in Rwanda is a tragic example."

The statement says there are many Africans who think Ghali has been exercising his powers, without any sense of responsibility. "The ease with which he seems to accede to any Western unilateral designs on Africa makes it very difficult to refute such critics. He seems unable to ask why each time the United States and her Western allies order him to jump, his only query seems to be: How high?"

PAM believes that the historical link between France and Rwanda would compromise "any moral or political concern that France may now be feigning". It blamed France and Belgium for "perpetration of brutal rule and systematic genocide in Rwanda."

In the three-page statement, the Kampala-based organization said it believes that France has a hidden agenda to repossess the Central African state as a French colony, prevent the rebels of Rwandan Patriotic Front from military victory and create another Liberia type of stalemate in that country. [passage omitted]

Congo**Government Offers To Help French Mission in Rwanda***AB2406095594 Brazzaville Radio Nationale Congolaise Network in French 0700 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Brazzaville on 23 June—read by government spokesman (Touatsi Mansagan)]

[Text] The Congolese head of state hails the decision made by the UN Security Council, at the request of the French Government, to deal with the emergency situation prevailing in Rwanda on humanitarian grounds. President Lissouba reiterates Congo's willingness to participate in the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda, in line with Resolution 925 of the Security Council of 4 June, and in line with other related OAU resolutions. President Lissouba reiterates his availability to pursue discussions at the subregional level and calls on all peace-loving forces to help in the implementation of the resolutions in order to put an end to this tragedy.

Equatorial Guinea**President Hails French Intervention in Rwanda***AB2406113594 Malabo Radio Nacional de Guinea Ecuatorial Network in Spanish 0600 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[Text] President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo has sent the following congratulatory message to His Excellency President Francois Mitterrand of the French Republic which reads:

Mr. President and dear friend,

We have learned with great satisfaction the French Government's historic decision to dispatch troops to Rwanda to provide humanitarian aid and to ensure peace there after the two-month-old massacres resulting from the ethnic war in that African country. This decision, Mr. President, is not at all surprising to my government as it is in response to the imperative need to preserve international peace as advocated by the United Nations, whose (?fundamental) principles have always been France's objective.

I would like to express to your excellency my government's unflinching support for and solidarity with the French Government in its efforts to save human lives in Rwanda. This initiative should be supported unconditionally by the entire international community.

Please accept, Mr. President and dear friend, the expression of my sincerest support and solidarity as well as my kindest regards.

For a better Equatorial Guinea.

[Signed] President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo.

The president also addressed a message to Prime Minister Edouard Balladur in Paris which reads as follows:

Mr. Prime Minister,

We have learned with great satisfaction the French Government's historic decision to dispatch troops to Rwanda to provide humanitarian aid and to ensure peace there after the two-month-old massacres resulting from the ethnic war in that African country. This decision, Mr. Prime Minister, is not at all surprising to my government as it is in response to the imperative need to preserve international peace as advocated by the United Nations, whose (?fundamental) principles have always been France's objective.

I would like to express to your excellency my government's unflinching support for and solidarity with the French Government in its efforts to save human lives in Rwanda. This initiative should be supported unconditionally by the entire international community.

Please accept, Mr. Prime Minister and dear friend, the expression of my sincerest support and solidarity as well as my kindest regards.

For a better Equatorial Guinea.

[Signed] President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo.

Rwanda**Heavy Fighting Reportedly Continues in Kigali***AB2406092594 Paris AFP in English 0856 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[Text] Kigali, 24 Jun (AFP)—Rebel and Army gunners pounded Kigali overnight and sporadic fighting continued early Friday [24 June] as United Nations forces prepared to evacuate hundreds of displaced people from the airport, a UN spokesman said.

"The fighting was very intense last night," UN military spokesman Jean-Guy Plante told AFP by telephone from Kigali. "There was a lot of heavy mortar and machine-gun fire. It's still going on this morning but it's sporadic."

Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) rebels are pressing their offensive to flush remaining government soldiers out of the capital Kigali, apparently fearing that French troops may forestall an all-out victory by the rebels who control about two-thirds of the small central African country.

Major Plante said UN troops had established radio contact late Thursday with French forces that arrived in western Rwanda on Thursday in the first stage of a military intervention to stem ethnic bloodletting. He said UN commander General Romeo Dallaire planned to meet Army chief of staff General Augustin Bizimungu later Friday to discuss the French military intervention and the future UN role in Rwanda.

Red Cross Hospital Hit

LD2406130794 Paris France-2 Television Network in French 1100 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Excerpts] French troops have launched their operation to save the people threatened with massacre in Rwanda, from their rear base on the border in Zairian territory. On the line, right away, we have our special correspondents on the French side and in the heart of the Rwandan capital, Kigali. Furthermore, the only journalist on the spot there is the France-2 journalist, Laurent Boussie. [passage omitted]

I am now going to talk to the only journalist still in Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, Laurent Boussie. Laurent, you are in the heart of the country, in Kigali, and this morning a fearsome offensive is being carried out by the RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front], the rebels, who clearly wish to take complete control of the city very rapidly. Laurent?

[Boussie] Yes, Daniel. Last night there was a very big offensive, a very big artillery barrage here in Kigali. The artillery barrage ended at about 0700 or 0730 this morning and the offensive appears to have resumed at about 1100.

At this time there is heavy fighting in the city. There is very heavy fighting around the Red Cross hospital, where all of the medical staff are sheltering. A shell even landed on the room where the wounded undergo triage. We have no news at this time of the number of people hurt, but it appears in fact—and it is rare for an operation to be taking place in the middle of the day, for it to begin in the morning—it appears that this is perhaps not the final assault, but in any case it is a very big offensive, only halted from time to time by the weariness of the men and the lack of ammunition, because the logistic channels for bringing in weapons are experiencing quite a lot of difficulty.

[Announcer] Laurent Boussie, you are in the company of the RPF forces, the RPF being the rebels who are opposed to French intervention. Have they referred to the beginning of the operation by the French forces?

[Boussie] This morning the RPF organized a demonstration—there were about 2,500 people demonstrating against the French presence—at which President Mitterrand was called a traitor, a killer, etc. So, you see, they are continuing to demonstrate. They are continuing to maintain the pressure against this French intervention, which they accuse of being aimed at aiding their enemies. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Initial Stages of French Operation Under Way

LD2306174994 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 1700 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] On the ground in Goma, on the Zaire-Rwanda border, we have the first report from our correspondent, Nicolas Poincare:

[Begin Poincare recording] Operation Turquoise has begun. The first French forces are inside Rwanda, but the first mission that was due to be carried out today could not, in the end, go ahead. The first troops were due to enter Rwanda from Zaire to the south, to go to Cyangugu and set up a first protection zone. Here in Goma, on the Zairean side of the border, where the headquarters of Operation Turquoise have been set up, the soldiers now say they are ready for this mission. They are just waiting for the green light from Paris. This will probably be given tomorrow morning. Around 60 paratroopers and marine commandos will go to Cyangugu to protect Tutsi refugee camps. The Tutsis number some 8,000 in this region, under threat from the Hutu militias.

This will be a first intervention to show the RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] quite clearly that the French have come on a humanitarian mission. The soldiers will then try to expand their protection zone, but all this will take a lot of time. For now, Operation Turquoise is above all a logistical operation. Here in Goma, for example, only 150 men have actually arrived.

Nicolas Poincare in Goma for France Inter. [end recording]

Further on Mobilization

AB2306203094 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French 1800 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Zairian territory is serving as a base for French troops in Operation Turquoise, a mission that France has termed humanitarian and that it claims is aimed at saving the civilian population who are in danger of being exterminated.

The French units are based in Goma and Bukavu at the Zaire-Rwanda border, from where they have been making incursions into Rwandan territory since this afternoon. A third base is in Kisangani, where French Army planes are stationed. In all, 2,500 troops have been mobilized today. A security corridor has been established from Goma to evacuate the 8,000 Rwandans trapped in (Assiengoungou). France has given assurances that its troops will not go as far as Kigali. According to French Defense Minister Francois Leotard, the mission is strictly a humanitarian and not a peacekeeping one.

The Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF], however, is opposed to the French intervention. The front says France is using Operation Turquoise as an alibi to give the Rwandan Army a helping hand. The Rwandan interim government thinks the French intervention should cover the entire territory.

According to a communique issued by the Rwandan Embassy in Kinshasa, the priority concerns for this humanitarian action should be to break the war trend which these hardened firebrands are bent on pursuing and ensure security conditions which would enable displaced people and war victims to get out of the mental

and financial distress resulting from the continuation of hostilities, which RPF sponsors are staking on.

The communique further stated that it is absolutely urgent for Rwandans to get out of this tragedy and for the international community to get mobilized and respond effectively to the people's distress calls. It also stated that the cease-fire is constantly being violated by this indisciplined group under the command of officers who thirst for power and blood and who had moved up in rank in Uganda in the Army of, quote, the former rebel, Museveni. [no reference to closing quote as heard] [passage omitted]

Interim Government Welcomes French Initiative

LD2306150294 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] In the western part of Rwanda, which is under the control of the government forces, the arrival of the French is welcomed with satisfaction. Jean Helen met Jerome Bicomupaka, the foreign minister of the Rwandan interim government, in Gisenyi:

[Begin recording] [Bicomupaka] Our government praises the French initiative to mobilize the international community to form an expedition force whose aim is to protect the threatened Rwandan civilian population. We think that this operation falls in line with the aim of establishing peace in Rwanda and promoting a fair political compromise in Rwanda, which our government has been trying to achieve for two and a half months now. This operation will make an effective contribution to the efforts aimed at establishing peace in Rwanda as soon as possible.

If the RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] once again refuses to budge and cooperate with this force, we think this force should have the means to make the RPF comply by force if necessary.

[Unidentified correspondent] That is to conduct itself as a buffer force or deploy itself in RPF zones?

[Bicomupaka] This force should absolutely be able to deploy itself in both government and RPF zones because people under threat are not only in our zone, but also in large numbers in the RPF zone. [end recording] [passage omitted]

This intervention has given rise to mixed reactions in Burundi, the neighboring country. The Burundian Foreign Minister Jean-Marie Ngendahayo:

[Begin Ngendahayo recording] What its neighbor Burundi says is that peace should be established in Rwanda and massacres should be stopped. Concerning Operation Turquoise, Burundi has never been officially consulted, either by France or by the two belligerents. Now, in Burundi we say we have to observe strict neutrality, that is as long as the two belligerents do not agree on this French initiative, French troops and

French military equipment will not be allowed to transit through Burundi. But we think that it is very important that everybody makes greater efforts for peace and humanitarian aid for the sake of the Rwandan people. [end recording]

RPF Chairman Comments on Talks With French Envoy

EA2306161594 (Clandestine) Radio Muhabura in French to Rwanda 1030 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Interview with RPF Chairman Alexis Kanyarengwe by correspondent Emmanuel Mugunga "today"; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] After meeting Jean-Michel Marlaud, the French envoy to Rwanda, the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] chairman, Alexis Kanyarengwe, today gave an interview to our colleague, Emmanuel Mugunga. Let us listen to the RPF chairman who starts by giving us his reasons for holding talks with the French envoy.

[Kanyarengwe] Indeed, I said last time that it was not necessary to receive the French delegation, given that the problems at hand were well known and that the RPF position on the current situation concerning France's intervention was very clear. However, this morning, I met the French envoy in Kigali, Mr. Marlaud to know exactly why he insisted on meeting me.

[Mugunga] What was the explanation?

[Kanyarengwe] Well, during the meeting, he briefed us on his government's position concerning the French intervention in Rwanda: That it would be a purely humanitarian intervention and nothing to do with exerting power. He also sought to inform us about the decision of the UN Security Council authorizing the French intervention in Rwanda. In reply, I explained that even with the UN authorization for the French intervention, the French presence was not at all appreciated by the RPF, and we considered the presence of these troops a dangerous element for the security and the success of operations in our country.

[Mugunga] Did envoy Marlaud talk to you about the state of progress of the so-called humanitarian mission?

[Kanyarengwe] In fact, a resolution was adopted at the Security Council in New York. And you know that even before the UN decision, France had already taken the initiative of preparing everything, placing all its equipment and troops in a country neighboring Rwanda. This means that the French operation was already ready at the border, despite our apprehensions which indeed persist. [passage omitted]

RPF Secretary General on French Intervention

LD2306221994 Paris Radio France International in French 2130 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] Theogene Rudasingwa, secretary general of the Rwandan Patriotic Front, has had very harsh words for France's operation in Rwanda. John Maguire met him in Paris this morning and asked him what he thought of the UN's vote, giving the green light for Operation Turquoise:

[Begin Rudasingwa recording, in English with superimposed French translation] I do not think the UN decision reflects a consensus on the part of the international community, because in the post cold war era, to have five abstentions at the UN Security Council is very significant.

You also know that the OAU, the countries of the region, and many international organizations of excellent repute, strongly oppose this intervention. So, I think we have witnessed not a consensus, but rather the will of the northern powers to consolidate a program which counters the interests of our people, to save those very groups who are responsible for this genocide. These powers at present see that these groups are weakened and are losing ground. I think that not only France, but also other countries, in particular Zaire, are trying simply to see how they can reorganize these groups of people so as to give them a place in the future. [end recording]

Zaire

Rwandan Turmoil Ends Mobutu's Isolation

AB2306163094 Paris AFP in English 1617 GMT 23 Jun 94

[By Mario Fiorito]

[Text] Kinshasa, June 23 (AFP)—Rwanda's ethnic bloodbath has enabled Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko, ostracised for maintaining autocratic rule, to return to the international stage first as an African mediator and then as host a French military intervention.

The Zairean ruler, out of favour with Paris and his Belgian and American former allies for almost three years, was in mid-June chosen by his African peers to try and mediate an end to Rwanda's strife and this week became crucial to French plans for military humanitarian intervention.

A ceasefire was negotiated under Marshal Mobutu's auspices between Rwanda's Hutu majority government and the mainly Tutsi rebels of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) at the annual summit of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in Tunis earlier this month.

The pact did not hold, but France's decision to launch a humanitarian military operation from Thursday [23 June] to protect ethnic Tutsis at risk of massacre in

government-held western Rwanda gave Mobutu a second chance to come to the fore.

In the face of opposition from the RPF, which accuses Paris of propping up successive Hutu regimes in Kigali, the lukewarm approval given Wednesday by the UN Security Council to the French operation, launched from Zairean territory, amounts to recognition of the role the elderly African ruler still has to play.

It entitles Mobutu to claim that without him as head of state, despite the political chaos and economic turmoil reigning in his country, the despatch to eastern Zaire of hundreds of French troops and Jaguar fighter-bombers would not have been so easily negotiated.

Paris, which had placed restrictions on Mobutu and his family and aides to increase pressure for democracy, will now find it more difficult to stop him "having his teeth seen to" at his residence in Cap-Martin in southern France, a Zairean politician joked Thursday.

After serious rioting and looting broke out in September 1991 in Zaire, leading to an exodus of thousands of expatriates, Mobutu was several times refused authorisation to go to France.

The radical opposition to the veteran leader, hostile to French intervention in Rwanda, will find in Operation Turquoise further grist to the mill of its criticism of France, often denounced as "Mobutu's accomplice."

Anti-French sentiment, strong among those close to Mobutu's main rival, Etienne Tshisekedi, who claims to be the country's prime minister though the head of state has sacked him, seems set to grow. In Kinshasa particularly, Tshisekedi is regarded as the charismatic head of the opposition to "dictatorship".

The presence of French troops in the vast central African nation, some Zairean politicians say in private, is proof of the "ambiguity" and successive changes in Paris's policy regarding Zaire.

"After denouncing Mobutu, in 1991 and in 1993 (following a mutiny by troops), France is behaving as if it were at home here," one political source said. "Who gave France the green light to station troops on our soil and who was asked for the authorisation?"

UDPS Spokeswoman Comments on End of Deputies Boycott

AB2206225594 London BBC World Service in English 1830 GMT 22 Jun 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Up to 150 Zairian parliamentarians have decided to end the seven-week boycott of the Assembly. They originally walked out in protest at attempts to sideline opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi, who claims to be prime minister. But, last week, the parliament chose Kengo Wa Dondo as prime minister, and on the face of

it Etienne Tshisekedi is out in the cold. On the line to Brussels, Chris Greene asked Justine Kasavubu, spokeswoman for Tshisekedi's UDPS [Union for Democracy and Social Progress] party if the return of the deputies wasn't a slap in the face for Tshisekedi:

[Begin recording] [Kasavubu] No, no, not at all, not at all. You are mistaken. I think you are totally wrong, no. If you can remember, the call Mr. Tshisekedi did about on the 5th of June for a general strike, it was a massive, a massive support in favor of this appeal for Mr. Tshisekedi. So, he still has the people on his side.

[Greene] But, he is isolated in parliament and the foreign donors are no longer interested in supporting him.

[Kasavubu] No, no, it is only Paris—France—who are still corrupting some of our politicians in order to, you know, push them and not to support Mr. Tshisekedi, but this doesn't come from the people of Zaire at all.

[Greene] But, inside, Kengo Wa Dondo must have been boosted by all these deputies deciding to return to Parliament.

[Kasavubu] No, I don't think so, and please give yourself some time in the coming weeks and you will see what will happen. I don't think that Kengo Wa Dondo or Mobutu now they can cry for victory. Just wait and see and you will see that the truth is on Mr. Tshisekedi's side.

[Greene] Can you give our listeners a preview of what is going to happen in the coming weeks?

[Kasavubu] Well, it is going to be more and more civil disobedience, boycott of French enterprises, and even Belgium—if ever Belgium happens to change its position in favor of Mobutu. So, we think that we have no choice now, it is going to be resistance until we get this democratization process under way. [end recording]

Ethiopia

Prime Minister Urges Peace in Region Five

EA2306200094 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network
in Amharic 1000 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Excerpts] Officials of Region Five [Ethiopian Somali region] have noted that with the exception of the prevailing natural and man-made drought in the area, peace is prevailing in the whole area and the people are leading their lives peacefully. The officials, when briefing Prime Minister Tamirat Layne who is currently visiting the region, said that what some (?newspapers) had related about the region is baseless. Mr. Tamirat who met the officials of the Region in Jijiga said that a joint effort by the people, their representatives and the government was required in order to combat the prevailing drought in the region. Teferi Legese has the details.

[Begin Teferi recording] During the meeting, the officials of the region briefed Mr. Tamirat about the prevailing problems in the region. [passage omitted] The officials noted that the Ethiopian Somalis are trying their best to maintain peace and stability in their areas and that in fact, they are at present leading their lives peacefully and maintaining peace in the region in collaboration with the transitional government's Army. What some private newspapers have been saying about the region is therefore baseless. [passage omitted]

Mr. Tamirat, on his part, said that joint efforts have to be made by the government, the region's officials, people and various nongovernmental organizations in order to combat the prevailing problems. [passage omitted]

Regarding the security of the region, the prime minister said that those who are saying there is no peace in the region can say whatever they want, but you [the officials] should strive to solve people's problems. [end recording]

Mandela Agrees To Meet With UNITA's Savimbi
*MB2306145294 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1442
 GMT 23 Jun 94*

[Text] Cape Town June 23 SAPA—South African President Nelson Mandela has agreed to become involved in international mediation attempts aimed at ending Angola's civil war. Mr Mandela said at Tuynhuys on Thursday that he was prepared to meet UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader Jonas Savimbi, preferably in South Africa.

Speaking after a meeting with United Nations Mediator Alioune Blondin Beye and representatives of the United States, Portuguese and Russian Governments, Mr Mandela said he would first contact Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and then Dr Savimbi.

"I would be happy to invite Dr Savimbi and to sit down and have a discussion with him. I know Mr dos Santos' point of view, but I've never had the honour of meeting Dr Savimbi. I am prepared to see both parties in the near future," he said.

Mr Beye said Mr Mandela had been asked to become involved as the leader of a nation that neighbored Angola and also had substantial assets there. He said South Africa had geographical, historical and political ties to Angola.

Mr Mandela said South African companies had invested in oil and diamond mining in Angola, and an end to the civil war that has raged since 1975 would be a positive advantage to South Africa.

Mr Beye said the UN's priority was not to bring about a direct meeting between Dr Savimbi and Mr dos Santos. It first wanted to contact Mr dos Santos and then to set up a meeting between Mr Mandela and Dr Savimbi.

Further on Meeting With UN Envoy

*MB2306205094 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in
 Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Jun 94*

[Text] Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola, met with South African President Nelson Mandela in Cape Town today. Present at the meeting were six observers in the Angolan peace process, including the U.S. ambassador in South Africa. Alioune Blondin Beye briefed Nelson Mandela on the development of the peace talks in Lusaka. Manuel Augusto, Angolan charge d'affaires in South Africa, told Luanda Radio Nacional today that the meeting was positive.

[Begin recording] [Augusto] As far as we know, President Mandela expressed gratitude for the briefing. He also expressed his readiness, at the request of the relevant parties, to render his contribution within the framework of the Lusaka talks. In other words, President Mandela made it clear that he will not take initiatives which are outside the Lusaka spirit or which could collide with the Lusaka spirit.

[Unidentified correspondent] We have learned here in Luanda that President Nelson Mandela has agreed to join the group of mediators in the Angolan conflict, that he even expressed a readiness to meet very soon with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. When do you think these meetings will take place, particularly with the president of the Republic?

[Augusto] In my understanding, I think it is not very correct to say that he agreed to join the group of mediators. In his capacity as the head of state at the present, President Mandela would not join anyone, because we have no mediators at the level of heads of state. It is correct to say, however, that President Mandela expressed a readiness to join efforts aimed at bringing peace to Angola.

President Mandela also said at the end of the meeting this afternoon that, at the request of the UN mediators, he is ready to meet with all the parties involved in the process. It is important to clarify, however, that at no time was it said that there would be a summit meeting. As long as he is requested, President Mandela is ready to take part in or promote meetings with the Angolan Government and UNITA.

Regarding the meeting with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, President Mandela has just expressed his readiness to meet him. So, some contacts will be made through the appropriate levels and channels between the South African Government and the Angolan Government so that the Angolan Government can tell the South African Government in which areas it expects it to render its contribution. [end recording]

Ronnie Kasrils Appointed Deputy Defense Minister

*MB2406080194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0723
 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[Statement issued by President Nelson Mandela on the SAPA PR Wire Service on 24 June]

[Text] The minister of defence, Mr Joe Modise, has made representations to me about the need for additional senior personnel to run his ministry.

Taking into consideration the important role of the South African National Defence Force and the challenges it faces with regard to the vital process of integrating the different armed forces, the request was acceded to.

I am therefore pleased to announce the decision to appoint Ronald Kasrils as deputy minister of defence for the Republic of South Africa.

Mr Kasrils has acquired experience in military affairs as a leading officer of Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation—ANC military wing]. His experience, expertise

and skills enabled him to play an important role in the defence sub-council of the Transitional Executive Council. I am confident that he will do the same in his new role as deputy minister of defence.

[Signed] Nelson Mandela

President

Further on Kasrils' Appointment

MB2406092824 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0822 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Text] Cape Town June 24 SAPA—Former Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing] intelligence chief Mr Ronnie Kasrils has been appointed deputy minister of defence, President Nelson Mandela announced on Friday [24 June]. He said in a statement that Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise had made representations to him about the need for additional senior personnel to run his ministry.

He had agreed to the request after taking into account the important role of the SANDF [South African National Defense Force] and the challenges it faced in the vital process of integrating the different armed forces.

Mr Mandela said Mr Kasrils had experience in military affairs as a leading officer of Umkhonto we Sizwe.

His experience, expertise and skills enabled him to play an important role in the defence sub-council of the Transitional Executive Council.

"I am confident that he will do the same in his new role as deputy minister of defence," he said.

Mr Kasrils' appointment brings the total number of deputy ministers to 13.

He became a member of Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) on its creation and carried out acts of sabotage before being sent abroad for military training.

After several years in the ANC office in Dar es Salaam Mr Kasrils and his wife Eleanor moved to London where he worked to establish underground MK units in South Africa. During this period he also co-wrote several books about the philosopher and socialist Bertrand Russell.

In 1977 Mr Kasrils moved to Angola to become political instructor in the MK camps and later political commissar for Angola.

He was based in Lusaka between 1985 and 1989. He was chief of military intelligence from 1983-1988 and was a co-opted member of the National Executive Committee from 1987.

When he returned illegally to the country at the end of 1989, Mr Kasrils was hunted by the security forces for his role in Operation Vula and repeatedly escaped arrest before being indemnified in June 1991. He was elected

to the NEC [National Executive Committee] and the National Working Committee and the Political Bureau of the SACP [South African Communist Party].

Kasrils' autobiography "Armed and Dangerous: My Undercover Struggle Against Apartheid" was published earlier this year.

Daily Newspaper Publishes 'Budget in Brief'

MB2406071294 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 23 Jun 94 p 8

[By Sylvia du Plessis]

[Text] Revenue: The total consolidated estimate of revenue for the National Revenue Account is R105.8bn [rand], 11.2 percent above the comparable figure for 1993/94. This figure includes all revenue at national and regional level.

Expenditure: The estimate of total expenditure from the National Revenue Account is R135.1bn, up 10.2 percent from 1993/94. This now covers all spending at national and regional level, except that financed from the former regional administrations' own revenues. It includes the R4bn for the transition.

Finance: The final consolidated Budget deficit will be R29.3bn or 6.6 percent of GDP [gross domestic product]. This compares with last year's 6.9 percent. Loan redemptions will be about R6.9bn, lifting the gross borrowing requirements to R36.5bn. Government intends to finance this mainly through domestic loans of R34.513bn. Foreign borrowings of R1.8bn are planned.

Reconstruction and Development: An amount of R2.5bn was allocated to the RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program] fund, rising to R5bn, R7.5bn, R10bn and R12.5bn over the next four years. The initial finance was raised by cuts in departments' budgets.

Tax Proposals: Individual tax rates remain unchanged, but there is a transition levy of 5 percent on individuals with taxable income above R50,000, or R175,000 in the case of married women.

- Companies with taxable income in excess of R50,000 are also liable for the transition levy at a rate of 5 percent.
- The corporate tax rate falls to 35 percent from 40 percent from April 1994, but STC [secondary tax on companies] will be raised to 25 percent from 15 percent with immediate effect.

VAT [value-added tax]: Remains unchanged at 14 percent.

Customs and Excise:

- The price of a 340ml can of beer rises by 2c (6c/l).
- Spirits rise by 53c a 750ml bottle.
- Cigarettes increase by 7c for 10.
- Cigarette tobacco increases by 9c per 50g.

- Pipe tobacco and cigars increase by 65c per kg.
- Unfortified wine rises 4.5c per 750ml bottle.
- Fortified wine increases 5c per 750ml bottle.
- Sparkling wine rises 6c per 750ml bottle.
- Other fermented drinks such as cider rise 2c per 340ml can.
- Sorghum beer increases 1c/l.
- Sorghum beer powder rises 5c/kg.
- Cold drinks and mineral water increase by 1c/l.

Import Surcharge: The 5 percent import surcharge on all capital and intermediate goods will be removed with immediate effect.

Pensions:

- Civil pensions rise by 5 percent from April 1 1994 for pensioners who retired or before July 1 1993; those who retired later but before April 1 1994 receive a 0.56 percent increase for each full month since retirement.
- Pensions which have increased since retirement by a percentage which, after taking into account the increase above, does not equal 70 percent of the increase in the CPI [consumer price index] since retirement, will be increased to that level.
- Military pensions will rise by 5.6 percent from April 1 1994.
- About R418m is made available for a general social pensions increase and the elimination of backlogs.

Job Creation: R292m is allocated to job creation, excluding allocations from the RDP fund. However, the figure mainly represents a rollover by the Manpower Department.

Finance Minister Discusses Budget, RDP, Taxes

MB2306162194 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1830 GMT 22 Jun 94

[Interview with Finance Minister Derek Keys, in the Cape Town studio, by SABC announcer Max du Preez, WEEKEND STAR correspondent Magnus Heystek, and BEELD economic correspondent Curt von Keyserlingk in the Johannesburg studio, on 22 June; from the "Agenda" program—recorded]

[Text] [Du Preez] Good evening and welcome to Agenda. This is where we provide the background to the day's news. After days of speculation, the government of national unity's first budget was announced today. For some it brought good news, but for others, definitely not. Earlier, together with two of my colleagues in the media world, we spoke to the minister of finance, Mr. Derek Keys, on the budget and its consequences. With me I have two senior correspondents in the business world, Magnus Heystek from the WEEKEND STAR and Curt von Keyserlingk from BEELD. Minister Keys is in Cape Town. Good evening, Mr. Keys.

[Keys] Good evening, Max.

[Du Preez] Mr. Keys, let us begin. My first impression when I listened to you this afternoon is that the more things appear to change, the more they really stay the same. This is not exactly a budget catering for reconstruction. It is not really a budget for the poor, is it?

[Keys] Of course, it is. There is a large contribution towards the Reconstruction and Development Program [RDP].

[First correspondent] Mr. Keys, I do not completely agree with Max du Preez. The South African taxpayer is among the most heavily taxed in the world. In the past it was said that attempts would be made to lower its taxes, in other words to lower direct taxation and to increase indirect taxation. Now you went in the opposite direction with the financing of the RDP...[pauses] of the transitional costs. Why?

[Keys] Well, this is an exceptional opportunity, something we have to deal with once and put behind us. The biggest factor I had to contend with was to maintain a healthy structure—to try to accommodate the one-off tax.

[First correspondent] But would it not have been better to raise revenue through privatization? It is a very healthy principle. Throughout the world the emphasis is on privatization, even in socialist countries. Why do we not privatize, then the taxpayer would not have more burdens placed on him?

[Keys] Yes, well there are arguments in favor of this and there are arguments against. A few of my colleagues have stated their opposition to this in the last few weeks. There are certain reasons they consider it unwise to privatize at this moment. This was not a practical option for me.

[Du Preez] Mr. Keys, could I just come in quickly. There has been an increase in the defense budget. Why is that?

[Keys] Yes, the defense budget is up because it includes a large part of the transitional costs, so in other words it is just a problem of the transitional costs reflected there.

[Second correspondent] Minister, tell us a little more about the Katz Committee you have just appointed. What are their orders? What are they going to look at?

[Keys] Yes, they have a very wide task. One cannot exactly restrict experts of that caliber. One should give them the widest possible freedom of movement and this they do have. All that we have asked them is—to the extent that their recommendations are applicable to the next budget—they should please give us those recommendations towards the end of November this year. Thereafter, we will publicize it and then we will accept public comment, and then decide in February '95 what changes we want to make to the structure.

[Second correspondent] Will they, for example, look at aspects like retirement planning, which is an uncertain stage for many people?

[Keys] Yes, they are not prevented from doing this. In terms of their brief there is a very wide clause, which almost says that anything else they think they want to make recommendations on, they should be allowed to do so. That is not excluded. I am not sure if they would want to tackle that issue in this commission.

[Du Preez] Minister, the last few years the general complaint by the ordinary taxpayer like me has been, that if each of us, the ordinary PAYE [pay as you earn] people, if each of us employs a tax lawyer then the state income will shrink considerably, because the wealthy already have the lawyers. Will this problem be addressed in the new South Africa?

[Keys] I think we have been addressing this now for a number of years. We had a situation that was totally unacceptable, with schemes—I think the schemes concerning film production was the scheme that attracted a lot of attention—and that sort of approach towards tax commitments, etc, was totally unacceptable. We did a lot of work over the last few years to remove those schemes. We have progressed well, and throughout we are attempting to put in place the simplest possible system. The reason for this is that the more complicated your systems get the more opportunities you create for these tax engineers who were so successful in the past.

[First correspondent] Minister, you said that the additional tax is a one-off levy, and you promised that it would not be continued. Now your predecessor also said a few years ago that the tax on imports would be phased out, and today you said that this would also be referred to this commission. This means that this is also in the balance. You also spoke about the RDP. It seems that there is 8 billion per year, it seems that much will be spent annually on the RDP. Where will this come from? Will it not come from this tax increase?

[Keys] No, the 8 billion is probably the average you have taken from this increase in contribution.

[First correspondent] Yes, that is so.

[Keys] No, this will come from the current level of expenditure from the various departments, and since we have a long period in which to plan this—the canceling of funds is equal to about 3 percent of expenditure—it is a very practical objective. So this will take place. As far as the surcharge is concerned, if I can just answer that question—the reason we left the surcharge on consumer goods, is that if you ask a commission to look into the issue of VAT [value-added tax], which is imposed to a large extent on consumer goods, and where the possibility exists that they could encounter different rates on different types of goods, then it is better that they also—concerning the effect of the surcharge on the same type of goods—that they also take that into account.

[Second correspondent] Minister, there was a lot of speculation that you might have referred to the abolishing of the financial rand. You did not refer to it. That is my first question.

[Keys] I did mention it briefly.

[Second correspondent] What is the government's program in connection with this?

[Keys] The government's program is exactly the same as it was a year ago when the president of the Reserve Bank spelt out his guarantees, and they are simple: The margin between the two types of rands must be narrowed. The finrand's balance in the banking system must be narrowed, and the Reserve Bank must have certain methods, in the form of foreign reserves, enabling it to organize bridging finance. These three guarantees are healthy, they are still valid, and our policy is to stay within the framework of those three guarantees.

[Second correspondent] A second question in connection with interest rates. The budget is somewhat surprising in the manner in which the budget deficit will be financed. What is your opinion about a possible lowering of interest rates seen against the background of the relatively low inflation rate and low pressure on state finances?

[Keys] Well, naturally if one speaks only of our internal factors then I would say there should be a slight decrease in the interest rate—the long-term rate—but we should also take into account that we are already part of the international world, and in the international world as you well know, the interest rates increase in different countries. We cannot remain immune as far as those tendencies are concerned, so it is very difficult to determine which of those two tendencies will actually affect us more.

[Second correspondent] A final question, Minister. The foreign exchange markets are characterized by a weakening dollar, but despite this the rand is terribly weak against the British pound and the American dollar. What is the reason for this sudden weakening in our currency?

[Keys] Well, it is not that sudden. There has been a steady decline now for the past few years. There is a basic underlying reason—that is, that for years we have had a higher rate of inflation than our trading partners, and this is still true today although the difference is, of course, much smaller. That is the underlying reason, but added to this there has been a lot of speculative activity affecting us, and this has increased in the course of the last few years. Those two factors together have had this effect.

[First correspondent] Minister, if I can come back to the Reconstruction and Development Program. It seems as if you said—well, you did not actually say this—but it seems as if you do not want to increase taxes to finance this. This will mean then that it will be financed mainly from savings in state expenditure. Now state expenditure to a large extent concerns loans for state officials. What are your expectations of the total number of people in the civil service over the past three, four, or five years? Do you think there will be a decline, or as is the case in the Department of Defense, it will increase?

[Keys] Do you mean...

[First correspondent, interrupting] The number of people in the civil service.

[Keys] I think one must bear in mind that in the program managed by Minister Naidoo that there is no question of him developing a bureaucracy of his own. In other words, that money will be applied in different directions and it could be that the current state departments, in many instances, will have to play a larger role in this respect. So, while they have to cut down on existing, or normal, or routine activities, there will be some developments. It is not as if we are going to decrease the total expenditure in those two programs together. The total of the two programs together, from the RDP and from the normal departmental expenditure, will stay the same. As long as there is a reasonable measure of flexibility among the personnel, I see every possible chance that through reallocation of personnel the problem will not be very big. Then one should also take into account that we are talking here of an annual decrease of 3 percent of the total rate.

[Du Preez] Can I ask you a general question? Years back in the apartheid era we had the expectation that when apartheid was dismantled our bureaucracy would be reduced, we would reduce wastage because we would not have homelands. Could you tell us at this stage if this will really happen or if we have created new bureaucracies with the provinces, and will our civil service waste just as much money as before?

[Keys, laughing] Without answering the allegations hidden in your question, I will just say that we are replacing 17 administrations with a total of 10. I think the nine provinces will operate more effectively and efficiently as was the case with the old ones, and their relationship with the central government will be a healthier one. All the civil servants in the provinces are also members of the same public service who will lighten the load of management to a great extent. There is every reason to believe that the new system will be much more effective.

Having said this, I do not want to hide the fact that there could be transitional problems, where for a while people will have to sit with other administrations and where they will only be absorbed slowly as time goes by, in compliance with the new administration. So in the short-term it may be true that there may be a certain measure of ineffective management, but long-term I am hopeful that this will not be the case.

[First correspondent] Minister, you have made an interesting comment in your budget speech, that the needy should not look to the budget for assistance but to the RDP. That is an interesting statement. When can the destitute look forward to assistance from this RDP?

[Keys] Well, this can begin immediately through the announcements made by the president in his opening debate in Parliament. He announced the feeding scheme

for schools, medical services for certain classes of the needy, etc. So the process has already begun, but it is true that assistance to the poor will actually have to come from the expenditure side of the budget. You cannot help a person not paying tax by giving them tax concessions.

[Second correspondent] Minister, as you well know, in every other country it was proven that indirect taxation is a more effective way of collecting revenue. Now I know that there are political objections to this but in the future, if tax has to be increased, do you think it will be direct tax increases or indirect tax increases?

[Keys] Well, it is of course a hypothetical question. You must remember that the current interest rates, the current structure, did bring about a smaller deficit. So in other words it is actually very healthy. If we can control the expenditure side of it then it will remain healthy. So the chances that we will need it is small and we must keep it small. When it comes to a choice between the systems of taxation—these we exercised last year already. You remember the VAT rate was earlier at 10 [percent]. We put it at 14 because of the reasons you mention.

[Du Preez] Could I quickly ask you, in terms of the corporate tax rate being reduced by 5 percent, is it not something of a surprise element?

[Keys] Well, it is something that worked very well last year. We noticed that the lowering of the rate from 48 to 40 had a very good effect. We are taking it now, if I can put it this way, to its limit, or rather, to its eventual resting place at 35, with the dividend calculated rate at 25. We think it will work well. It's very good for smaller companies and for new companies and it helps any company wanting to reinvest its profits.

[Second correspondent] Minister, in relation to that question, what do you think foreign reaction will be to your budget?

[Keys] Well, I think that as far as one can make predictions on market developments and so forth, I think that the general approach and reaction will be favorable, but there is a measure of skepticism. The president spoke about getting rid of Afro-pessimism, and I want to add to that Afro-skepticism, a very widespread occurrence. We should not expect everything we say and do to have an immediate effect.

[Du Preez] Minister Keys, in Cape Town. Thank you very much. Colleagues, thank you for your time.

Finance Committee Questions 5 Percent Levy

MB2306153894 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1100 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] The Joint Standing Committee on Finance has questioned the government's assurance that the 5 percent levy on incomes over 50,000 rands a year will be a once-off deduction.

The minister of finance, Mr. Derek Keys, announced in his budget speech that the levy would be used to cover the costs of the Transitional Executive Council and the Independent Electoral Commission. However, Mr. Ken Andrew of the Democratic Party pointed out that next year's municipal elections would probably cost more than the national and provincial elections. The possibility of a referendum in certain provinces could also [not] be excluded.

Earlier, Mr. Keys named the members of the commission that is to review South Africa's tax structure and make recommendations on improving it. The commission will be headed by Professor Michael Katz, who also heads the Tax Advisory Committee. Other members are Professor Dennis Davis, Dr. J. de Villiers Graaff, Mr. P. du Toit, Professor P. More, and Miss (D. Moktatl), and Mr. J. Njeke. Mr. Keys announced the formation of the commission in making his budget speech yesterday.

The commission will examine personal income tax, corporate tax, VAT [value-added tax] and the income of the tax system on small business, savings, investment, foreign finance, and collection. Mr. Keys told this Joint Standing Committee on Finance that it was in South Africa's best interest to continue the Mossas [Mossel Bay Gas] project. He said that not only did the state have major investments in the project but it also created job opportunities and was responsible for savings in foreign exchange.

Mr. Billy Nair of the ANC noted that the government had spent about 3,000 million rands on the project last year and that the work on the project was so specialized that it did not contribute significantly to creating job opportunities. He called for a viability study of the project.

Further on IEC, TEC Spending

MB2306123594 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0957 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] Parliament June 23 SAPA—The Independent Electoral Commission [IEC] and the Transitional Executive Council [TEC] had had "an open cheque book" to fulfill their mandates, the director-general of state expenditure, Mr. Hannes Smit, said on Thursday. Appearing before the Joint Standing Committee on Finance, he said both the IEC and TEC did not have budgets approved by Parliament, and therefore there was no over-spending on specific allocations.

Mr. Smit was replying to a question by Mr. David Graaff (NP) [National Party] on over-spending by the IEC and TEC.

He said the IEC, funded from the budget of the Department of Home Affairs, had received R119 million [rand] from the 1993/94 budget and R128.5 million from the department's 1994/95 allocation.

The IEC had then requested an additional R700 million, bringing its total allocation to R948.3 million.

The TEC had received R7.5 million from the 1993/94 home affairs budget and R8.4 million in 1994/95—a total of R15.9 million.

Trade Minister on Budget, RDP, Economic Growth

MB2306145694 Johannesburg SABC CCV Television
Network in English 1730 GMT 22 Jun 94

[Interview with Trade and Industry Minister Trevor Manuel by SABC announcer Leslie Mashokwe in Cape Town; date not given; from the "Newsline" program—recorded]

[Text] [Mashokwe] Do you think that this budget is really going to make you realize the dream of a better life for all South Africans?

[Manuel] It certainly provides a fairly important start. Where do you look? Firstly, the 2.5 billion rand which the president raised in his state of the nation address as a contribution towards the RDP [Research and Development Program] is a small sum. But within all of the budget, within each of the programs, certainly where I sit within trade and industry, what I need to do is to stimulate those areas that the RDP asks of me. Every budget line must be reexamined, and you've got to look at issues that relate to the quality of life of people. In that way we can address the RDP.

It's not going to happen in one year. It's certainly a process more than a single event. But I think we're well on the way. So clearly within the budget there's sufficient room to do that. Take account of the fact that to draw up a budget takes about 14 months. You've had your election just two months ago, and so all of the inputs aren't there, but within the big picture I think there's enough room.

There are certain things that we believe are important as well. You would have found that in the ANC election manifesto there were taxes for people earning less than 4,000 rand a month, would be one example. The very unfair burden placed on women, especially married women in respect of taxation would be another example. Now with this once-off levy to pay for the transition costs, and they were fairly high, you would find special relief for those two groups of people, so the terms are in place.

[Mashokwe] Let's look at one relief, one particular relief that we think ANC used very strongly—zero rating on foods stuffs. Nothing is coming out of this budget in that regard, and one would have expected an ANC government to pioneer at least something along those lines?

[Manuel] Okay, clearly it is an omission for the moment. But in looking at the overall tax structure it's important that you don't just do things piecemeal. You don't want to zero-rate bread and add 2 percent on the price of the jam that will go on that bread.

And so the commission that was set up on taxation under the chairpersonship, Professor Michael Katz, is actually going to be important. All South Africans across the board can then make input into that commission. And that commission will advise government on a new system of taxation.

Overall it will take account of pay-as-you-earn, SITE [standard income tax on employees], corporate tax in the longer term sense, but certainly also VAT [value added tax]. It is important, and I say that unless democracy puts more food of a better quality on the tables of the majority of South Africans we wouldn't have achieved anything. So that is why the zero rating, increasing that basket of goods that could be zero rated, is an important issue. But it will come, and I'm sure that it would be announced even before the next budget.

[Mashokwe] The reason why I'm asking you this is because when you were not in government you were calling for the scrapping, the zero rating of foodstuffs, and now you're not saying anything about it. You're saying to me that it's coming?

[Manuel] I'm saying it's coming. I'm saying that it needs to be done in the context of complete revision of the tax structure that obtains—that commission was announced today—Michael Katz, Dennis Davis, a few other people on that commission, I think it will hear what South Africans want, and make the necessary input, so government can be advised on the new tax system.

[Mashokwe] You said earlier that where you sit in trade and industry, this budget is of importance. In what way? Import surcharge being canceled, what does that mean to me?

[Manuel] Well, it means a fair amount to any South African. Firstly, the way in which corporate tax, or company tax is now structured so that you have a reduction to 35 percent, and then the secondary tax on companies which effects dividends primarily, being increased, is an important signal to small and medium business people because they are the major beneficiaries out of this.

But what all South Africans need is an economy that grows, and clearly this is an investment budget. At a corporate rate of 35 percent, investments, new investments are encouraged, dividend pay-outs are not encouraged, and so more investment, more jobs, all of those issues become important.

[Mashokwe] What about reduction of tax on individuals, people who made an X next to ANC?

[Manuel] Yes, I'm saying that one would expect the terms of reference of the commission established on taxation to include issues of personal income tax.

COSATU: Emphasis on Fiscal Discipline One-Sided

*MB2406103294 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0054 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[Text] Johannesburg June 23 SAPA—Fiscal discipline had to be balanced against the country's needs rather than the International Monetary Fund's prescriptions, the Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] said on Thursday [23 June]. Reacting to Wednesday's budget, COSATU said in a statement the emphasis on fiscal discipline was one-sided.

"Fiscal discipline had been repeatedly raised as a virtue in itself, without the assurances that this would not be done at the expense of economic development or social justice," the statement said.

COSATU welcomed "without reservation" the five per cent transition levy saying it was "the first truly progressive taxation measure" which contributed to the aim of the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

On military spending, COSATU said it was difficult to accept that defence spending should increase from R9.3 billion [rand] to R10.6 billion in a reconstruction and development budget. "While we understand that certain costs have been incurred by the process of integration, a democratic South Africa which is at peace with the world cannot justify spending such huge sums on the military, including R1.5 billion on fighter aircraft.

"We are further alarmed to see that vast sums are being spent on para-military expenditure for the police. In a period when the emphasis should be shifting to community policing it is difficult to understand why half a billion rand has been allocated to buying armoured vehicles for the police."

COSATU added it supported the call for an urgent defence review, involving all sectors of society, to be completed before next year's budget.

Official Comments on Budget

*MB2306145194 London BBC World Service in English
0600 GMT 23 Jun 94*

[Interview with COSATU official Neil Coleman by reporter Carol Williams; place and date not given—from the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] Now to South Africa where the ANC-led government has unveiled its first budget. There were few big surprises and as expected the emphasis was on social spending for education, housing, and welfare, as well as tax incentives for businesses. But with its proposals for a [words indistinct] wealth's tax, some have called it a Robin Hood budget—taking from the rich to help the poor. Carol Williams spoke to Neil Coleman from COSATU, the Congress of South African Trade Unions, and asked him for the union's reaction to the budget.

[Begin recording] [Coleman] Well, you know, we are still studying it and looking at the full implications of the budget, but our initial response would be that it is a budget which lays the basis for the implementation of the Reconstruction and Development Program which COSATU and the trade unions were a very important part of designing. However, we have to recognize the fact that we are inheriting an apartheid bureaucracy and monetary amounts don't necessarily mean delivery. So, what we are already looking at are processes which will result in the restructuring of the public sector and ensure that the money in the budget actually results in delivery to the poorest communities which actually need the services.

[Williams] You mentioned that you quietly welcomed the budget, but there have been reports in some ANC grass roots circles that they are disappointed, that this budget (?isn't enough) to actually [words indistinct] apartheid.

[Coleman] What we are saying [words indistinct] to a tax system is that you have a 5 percent levy which is going to pay for the transition costs, but on the other hand there are certain areas which we believe could have been addressed better. For example, spending on defense has gone up from 9.3 billion to 10.6 billion [rand] and we don't believe that in a time of peace in which we are reconstructing our country that we can justify spending such a high amount on defense. We are calling for the government to engage in an urgent defense review. So, there are weaknesses in the budget, but for us the critical question is to make this bureaucracy, which is attempting to implement a reconstruction budget, to make that bureaucracy much, much more accountable and receptive to the needs of the public.

[Williams] And just how can the trade unions actually do that?

[Coleman] Well, I think we can do that in a number of ways. For a start, the problem that we are facing at the moment is that we have inherited a public service which is extremely stratified. At the bottom you have workers who are actually delivering the services, being paid poverty wages, while the bureaucrats who are delivering very little at all are getting paid fairly high wages. We want to look as a trade union movement at (?flexing) the hierarchies to ensure that the service delivered are actually remunerated fairly. We also want to ensure that we are part of the processes of restructuring those departments and making them more accountable to the public.

[Williams] I know COSATU and your trade unions have been very closely aligned to the ANC and also very instrumental in setting up its reconstruction program. Yet, this budget is a very, very business, corporate friendly budget. Do you think this is in any way going to affect your relationship with the present government?

[Coleman] Well, we are not against a budget which encourages investment, encourages business, but the question is at the end of the day for us to ensure that the

business activity and the economic activity benefits everyone in the country and not just a privileged few. That is why, as I said, we would have liked to have seen much more emphasis on incentives to companies to create jobs, to engage in training, and in productive investment so that there would be some areas where we think too many concessions have been made. But on a whole it's quite a move away from the old apartheid South Africa where the only presence in the budget were the white minority and the business community. Here, clearly you have got the stamp of the majority beginning to imprint itself on the programs of government. [end recording]

Economist: Growth Unlikely To Reach 3 Percent

*MB2406130394 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1108 GMT 24 Jun 94*

[By Sean Feely]

[Text] Johannesburg June 24 SAPA—The economy is unlikely to achieve a three per cent growth rate this year because of the five per cent transition levy announced in the budget, Standard Bank chief economist Nico Cypionka said Friday [24 June] in Johannesburg.

"The levy is going to undermine private consumption expenditure and will also have a negative impact on savings," he told a SA Chamber of Business [SACOB] seminar on the budget.

Standard Bank was therefore downscaling its projection of three per cent growth this year to a 2.5 per cent increase in real gross domestic product.

However, the outlook for the agricultural sector remained encouraging and due to the statistical calculation of GDP [Gross Domestic Product] the non-agricultural sector only had to increase by 0.5 per cent to achieve a three per cent growth rate.

Mr Cypionka said the budget, presented to Parliament on Wednesday by Finance Minister Derek Keys, was a credible effort to balance socio-economic development and fiscal discipline.

"It's not an add-on budget. They (the government) want to cut in order to spend elsewhere," he said. "Foreign investors were looking for a budget like this, but they're going to see how the domestic market reacts."

He said the raising of the R2.5-billion [rand] to fund the Reconstruction and Development Programme [RDP] was admirable but warned the government could only perhaps squeeze departments on one further occasion.

The government plans to spend R40-billion on the RDP over the next five years and Mr Cypionka expressed concern those funds would be difficult to find. "You can snip-off from ordinary expenditure once, maybe twice, but not beyond that," he said. "The RDP expenditures are only feasible if economic activity increases and consequently lifts government revenue."

However, the budget was inflation neutral, avoiding an increase in value-added tax and easing manufacturing input costs due to the scrapping of the import surcharge on capital and intermediate goods.

Mr Cyzpionka said the budget may even push inflation down and once the Reserve Bank had likely shored up the reserve position in October, the Central Bank could cut its key rate by one per cent.

Ramaphosa Seeking Constitutional Experts for Assembly

MB2306164294 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1500 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] The Constitutional Assembly, which is to draw up South Africa's final constitution over the next two years, is to ask for nominations by the end of next month for a panel of constitutional experts to advise it. Constitutional Assembly Chairman Cyril Ramaphosa said in Cape Town it would then be able to start sifting through the nominations during the August session of Parliament.

Generals: ANC Sould Set Example in Truth Commission

MB2406120394 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1043 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Text] Pretoria June 24 SAPA—Members of the African National Congress serving in the government should set an example by disclosing their role in past acts of terror, nine former heads of the SA Police and SA Defence Force said in a statement on Friday [24 June]. In the statement issued on their behalf, former Police Commissioner Gen Mike Geldenhuys said certain principles needed to be followed if Justice Minister Dullah Omar was serious in his intention to expose the truth in the interests of reconciliation.

The first was that members of the ANC National Executive Committee, especially those serving in the government, set an example by disclosing their roles in the "planning, decision-making, policy, approval, instructions and acts which led to deeds of terror and death and mutilation of defenceless persons, including women and children".

Gen Geldenhuys said a second principle was that all parties and persons who were guilty of unlawful acts during the political struggle be dealt with "in all respects in the same way".

"The ANC and organisations which supported it cannot be excused on the grounds that they were conducting a so-called freedom struggle," the generals said.

Other principles included that basic justice should prevail and that the charter of fundamental human rights be upheld properly; that the activities of all organisations that played a role in undermining law and order and in promoting terrorism, as well as the misuse of funds

collected for welfare purposes, be investigated; and that the police, defence force and national intelligence service disclose all available information and documentation they have in that regard.

Gen Geldenhuys said it was of vital importance that the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed truth commission and its contribution to the reconciliation process be considered carefully.

It needed to be questioned whether the consequences of the commission's investigations would bring about division, distrust, bitterness and the rejection of political leaders and the security forces.

The statement was issued by Gen Geldenhuys on behalf of Freedom Front Leader Gen Constand Viljoen and Generals J P Gous, Gideon Joubert, Gertjie Prinsloo, Johan Coetzee, Hennie de Witt, Jannie Geldenhuys and Kat Liebenberg.

Measures To Adapt ANC to 'New Role' Announced

MB2306170994 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1500 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] African National Congress Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa has announced a wide range of measures to adapt the ANC to its new role as the senior partner in the South African Government. The measures include retrenchments of ANC head office staff, the opening of a Cape Town headquarters, and restructuring the organization to prepare it to play a role in implementing the Reconstruction and Development Program. Mr. Ramaphosa said the ANC's finances were also under scrutiny and that levies were being imposed on its paid public representatives to help finance the organization.

National Party Names Shadow Cabinet Members

MB2406054994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0525 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Text] Cape Town June 23 SAPA—The National Party [NP] announced its 34-member shadow cabinet on Thursday [23 June], including 10 members who were either ministers or deputy ministers in the portfolios they now have to monitor from opposition benches. The NP's six ministers, three deputy ministers and deputy speaker in the National Assembly were not included in the names released by NP leader Mr F W de Klerk at the party's weekly caucus meeting.

An NP statement said: "The function of these spokesmen will include ensuring that the NP's policies are effectively stated both within and outside parliament.

"Given that the NP is the biggest opposition party to the ANC, in spite of being part of the government of national unity its spokesmen will have an important watchdog role towards ANC and IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] ministers."

Shadow "ministers" who previously handled the portfolios to which they have been assigned include Dr Piet Welgemoed (transport), Mr Leon Wessels (labour), Mr Piet Marais (education), Mr Andre Fourie (land affairs), Mr Danie Schutte (justice), Mr Wynand Breytenbach (defence), Dr Theo Alant (finance), Mr David Graaff (trade and industry), Mr Fanus Schoeman (provincial affairs and constitutional development), and Mr Gert Myburgh (safety and security).

Other members of the NP shadow cabinet are: Mr Sam de Beer (civil service and administration), Mr Jac Rabie (housing), Mr P W Saaiman (water affairs and forestry), Mrs Devi Govender (welfare), Mr Glen Carelse (sport), Dr Boy Geldenhuys (foreign affairs), Mrs Sheila Camerer (women's affairs), Mr Andries Beyers (environment affairs), Mr David Chuenyane (public works), Mr Piet Coetzer (reconstruction and development programme), Mr Melt Hamman (mineral and energy affairs), Dr Francois Jacobsz (tourism), Mr Nic Koornhof (youth affairs), Mr Jacko Maree (local government), Mrs Nana Masango (population development), Mr Dan Makhanya (training), Mr Mario Masher (post and telecommunications), Dr Willem Odendaal (health), Mr Manie Schoeman (agriculture), Mr Hennie Smit (correctional services), Mr Myburgh Streicher (public enterprises), Mr Frik van Deventer (home affairs), Dr Frik van Heerden (arts, culture and technology), and Mr Marthinus van Schalkwyk (broadcasting).

The NP's cabinet ministers in the government of national unity are in charge of agriculture, constitutional development, environment affairs and tourism, finance, mineral and energy affairs and population development.

The NP has deputy ministers in the portfolios of education and training, justice and land affairs.

Dr Bhadra Ranchod of the NP is deputy speaker.

Hartzenberg, Viljoen Comment on Volkstaat Council

MB2206054094 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1830 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Interview with CP leader Ferdi Hartzenberg in Johannesburg and Freedom Front leader General Constand Viljoen in Cape Town by announcer Freek Robinson on the "Agenda" program—live]

[Text] [Robinson] With me here in the studio is Conservative Party [CP] leader Ferdi Hartzenberg and, in our parliamentary studio in Cape Town, Freedom Front leader General Constand Viljoen. Good evening to both of you. Dr. Hartzenberg, if I could start with you, what exactly is your objection to the Volkstaat [Afrikaner homeland] Council?

[Hartzenberg] Good evening, Freek. I think we have to look first at what our ideal is—our objective, our mission. What are we striving for? Let me sum it up like this:

The Afrikaner nation may be the nation with the strongest desire for freedom in the world—not at the cost of others, but to be itself, to be free in its own fatherland, to coexist and live in harmony with other nations in South Africa—in other words, to have political sovereignty, to have its own territorial security, and to be able to work with all other nations economically and in all other spheres. Our objection to the Volkstaat Council is both the constitution and the accord; these limit the Volkstaat Council and exclude that possibility because....

[Robinson, interrupting] I'm not sure about that. In any case, I have that constitutional principle here before me, and I can't see those aspects being excluded, perhaps not exactly in the way that you would want. So perhaps you must define exactly how you want it.

[Hartzenberg] I say, a sovereign state....[pauses] We also made proposals at Kempton Park, where we proposed that there should be a confederal order in South Africa so that those nations that want full self-determination can get it, and others that want other forms can also get them, so that all can cooperate in a confederation. But we want political sovereignty, and economic and other forms of cooperation. The constitutional principle there is one of 34. All the other 33 constitutional principles are compulsory. They stipulate that this and that will be like this. The very first one says South Africa must be one single sovereign state. In other words, that principle already excludes self-determination in the context that we want it—complete freedom. It excludes that. That same constitutional principle also says that while South Africa's population as a whole must have self-determination, there can also be self-determination for any community or nation.

[Robinson] That does not rule out the possibility that on the basis of culture and language there could very well be a region, whether inside South Africa or in any other recognized way—another recognized way....

[Hartzenberg, interrupting] The point is, that region and that self-determination—the farthest you can go with it is to create a 10th province, in other words, a province which will not have complete freedom and complete self-determination. It will still be under a central government with a tremendous amount of power, which will determine the education policy and the economic policy; which will dominate in all aspects; in other words, that is the most you can get.

[Robinson] Did you discuss that with President Mandela when you saw him on the three occasions; and does he agree with the fact that there is no way possible for you to establish an independent state?

[Hartzenberg] I discussed this thing with President Mandela, even long before the election, and he knows exactly what are the aspirations of our nation. The example which I cited is: If the Swazi people can be free and independent, and can live with everybody in South Africa in harmony and cooperation, then it is also a right to which the Afrikaner nation is entitled.

[Robinson] What was his reaction?

[Hartzenberg] He said he understands what we mean. But you have heard that several speakers in the ANC say no self-determination, no volkstaat for the Afrikaner, and that is exactly the problem. And that is why we did not support that constitutional principle in Parliament, as it does not make provision for full freedom and self-determination. That is why we did not sign the accord; that is why we did not participate in the election.

[Robinson] Can we just ask General Viljoen in Cape Town—do you also see this principle and the Volkstaat Council's function limited, as Dr. Hartzenberg sees it, that you do not have the option—even if you wanted—to have an independent state?

[Viljoen] I want to start by differing with you, Freek, when you said that there was a deep-rooted difference of opinion. I think there are only differences regarding the way to achieve it, but what Dr. Hartzenberg has just explained about the striving for freedom, I agree with that. The striving for freedom is something that we all agree on, and the ultimate objective that we are striving for is definitely also the same. I personally did negotiate, and I tried several times to. There is probably nobody else who tried harder to negotiate for a more positive constitutional principle than number 34. We would very much have liked this principle, as Dr. Hartzenberg also mentioned....[pauses] Now we come to the question: Is it still relevant or not? The fact is, as I see it, that the only way—other than war—that one can pursue to get a volkstaat is to use the constitutionally-provided system for that purpose.

[Robinson] I understand that, General. But can we clarify this point? Do you believe that this principle is so limiting that you cannot really become fully independent, even if you wanted to?

[Viljoen] I think the difference between this principle and the previous ones lies in the fact that the previous ones all dealt with negotiated aspects, formulated, and that is why they use the word "will." Because—in the limited time that we had available—we could not finalize this issue of a volkstaat concept through negotiations with the different parties, the word "will" was not used, but instead the word "can." If we can reach such an agreement, I believe it is quite possible to be able to resolve this matter. The council says very clearly that different forms of self-determination—and in my opinion that does not exclude the full negotiated approval of all the various parties....

[Robinson, interrupting] But what is your personal point of view? Reading between the lines, it seems you are not personally in favor of a totally independent homeland?

[Viljoen] I wouldn't put it that way. Let's look at the economy. A totally independent homeland would imply that you would also be economically independent. And what about foreign affairs? In our talks with the ANC, we have discussed the issue, and even when we were still in

the National Front, we felt that foreign affairs was a function which the homeland would most probably delegate to the central government. So in these two areas it becomes clear that it would be very difficult to create such a fully independent homeland immediately. If there was an area in South Africa where it was obvious that we had a majority, where it was almost a mere formality to draw borders, it would be easy. But we still have to form a homeland, and it will depend on the Afrikaners themselves, so it may be necessary to promote their independent homeland in phases. That is why it is important to me that we now stand together to try to get started on these phases.

[Robinson] Your response, Dr. Hartzenberg?

[Hartzenberg] Freek, I also believe that we may achieve our freedom in stages, and not in our first attempt. But what is important is that one should not accept the first phase as the final phase and then enter into agreements which bind one to decisions taken, and surrender the right to eventual sovereignty.

[Robinson] It seems that the difference between you and Gen. Viljoen is that you stand firm on the issue of an independent state.

[Hartzenberg] Look, that is our goal and we will not rest until we have achieved it. I am not prepared to surrender that goal. The Palestinians have now reached a settlement with the Israelis, but they do not have sovereignty. They accept the settlement; they say it is their final goal, but that they will press on. The unfortunate thing in our case is that the agreements and the constitution say the Volkstaat Council can undertake research and gather information and give advice, but that the Constitutional Assembly will make the final decision. It is the same as if you and I agree to a sale, and agree that when I have bought the article, I will decide what price to pay. If I then offer to pay you one cent for the article, you will not be able to claim that you were depending on my being reasonable. You will have to accept what we agreed upon. That is why we say if we bind ourselves to these agreements under the constitution, we will leave the right to sovereignty in the hands of the ANC or whoever is governing this country. We say we will never surrender the ideal of a free Afrikaner nation living in harmony with other nations. There will be no solution in South Africa unless the various nations have been accommodated according to their wishes.

[Robinson] Dr. Hartzenberg, you have established a People's Republic Committee. One assumes that the goal of the committee is the same as that of the Volkstaat Council, except that independence must come first?

[Hartzenberg] The function of the Republic Working Committee is to make recommendations, investigate, determine strategies in the constitutional, economic, social, security, education, local government, and other areas, and begin with the practical implementation of certain strategies; and to continue until we achieve our goal of a free Afrikaner nation in a free republic.

[Robinson] It seems logical to me that one would expect this committee of yours and the Volkstaat Council to liaise in some way.

[Hartzenberg] We would want that to be supplementary. We will have to ensure that our relationship is not confrontational. What is important is that we are operating outside the parliamentary system, and we have an important function to carry out. Remember, the ANC had never been in the parliamentary system. They only entered the parliamentary system when they took power. For years the Democratic Party [DP] propagated certain things, but they came nowhere, achieved nothing, until Dr. Van Zyl Slabbert and Alex Boraine left the system and started operating from outside. And they achieved more than the DP had intended....

[Robinson, interrupting] But there was also the matter of violence, and you said so in public.

[Hartzenberg] No, no. It is for that reason that, on the day after the inauguration of the state president, I called his office and asked for a meeting, because I believe it is possible to resolve this issue without violence.

[Robinson] Gen. Viljoen, how do you think these two committees or councils will liaise? How will they work together?

[Viljoen] Let me begin by saying that the achievement of our ideal of a homeland, of self-determination for the Afrikaner within a homeland, is a matter so closely linked to the future constitution of South Africa that the two cannot easily be separated. Afrikaners should realize that while we are one nation, we have three fairly large parties, and then there are many more smaller parties. So we have to find a mechanism which will allow us to speak with a single voice on the issue of self-determination. If we cannot get that right, we have big problems. We must establish a nonpolitical body. I believe the various political parties should now remain in the background so that we can forget about the contentious political issues and continue with the scientific aspects, the feasibility of the homeland.

[Robinson] But there are two bodies, General. How are they going to be reconciled with each other?

[Viljoen] No, no, I will come to that. In my opinion this means that we should use the Volkstaat Council as such a body. It is up to the Volkstaat Council to make scientific studies and to present the whole matter. Then from the political side—I have recently made such a proposition to Dr. Hartzenberg—we can form a political plenary committee from among the different parties. These ideas, as they are developed by the Volkstaat Council, will be analyzed and will give direction.

[Robinson] Doctor, what do you say about that?

[Hartzenberg] Freek, the Volkstaat Council has this limitation: It is limited by the constitution and accords to only get as far as a province. And we must be satisfied with that, because if we do not accept it, then we must

break the contract. Then we will be taken to court, and the court will find the constitutional body to be right: We have accepted and signed a contract, a contract which we would be breaking. We would then be defying a court decision. If those limitations were eliminated and the Volkstaat Council given an open agenda—so that it could go as far as full sovereignty—then we would consider the thing. At the moment, however, the Volkstaat Council is limited. It cannot go past a 10th province, which will be just like the other provinces.

[Robinson] Now what are you going to do in the future?

[Hartzenberg] Through our national Republic Working Committee we are going to negotiate....

[Robinson, interrupting] With the government?

[Hartzenberg] I have discussed the matter with the state president. We are going to make proposals. We are going to make it known in an agenda—if you will give us that chance—on all fronts....

[Robinson, interrupting] Directly to him, not through the Volkstaat Council?

[Hartzenberg] No, because if we go through the Volkstaat Council, then we accept the limitations that we can only go as far as a province, and our point of departure is: Everybody must know—including the ANC and the whole world—our ultimate goal is and remains sovereignty, and if we achieve something along the way, then it will only be a step. It will not be left in the hands of the constitutional body to finally decide on our behalf. If they give us something, we will decide whether that brings us closer to our goal. But we will not abandon our goal along the way.

[Robinson] In conclusion, General Viljoen, just briefly on one issue we have not yet touched: Should there be another form of voting just to determine whether there is going to be a homeland?

[Viljoen] The interesting part is this—as I have just said—we have three fairly big parties. Let us say the proven support at the moment of 640,000 on the provincial level for the Freedom Front is sufficient proven support. If one should add to that the stayaway votes of the Conservative Party, then it becomes majority support, and if we further accept....

[Robinson, interrupting] But that support has to be demonstrated.

[Viljoen] But that is the problem. At the moment 640,000 is already sufficient proven support. The point I am making is that if one considers that there are also others, and if one considers that within the National Party there is considerable enthusiasm for the same idea at the grassroots level, then we do not only have proven support but majority support. But what is very important, Freek—something that we have to realize—is that there are no limitations on the goal of a homeland. The limitations apply only to the process of negotiation. But

then such constitutional limitations will be exactly the same as when one works directly with the ANC. Whether you are negotiating inside or outside Parliament, the limitations—if there are any, and I don't think there are—will be the same.

[Robinson] Thank you very much, General. Thank you, Dr. Ferdi Hartzenberg. It seems there will still be some wrestling in the future to solve this problem. Thank you for your participation.

HRC Reports Violent Deaths Down During May

*MB2406072094 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1955 GMT 23 Jun 94*

[Text] Johannesburg June 23 SAPA—The national violence death toll dropped by 60 per cent from April's 487 to 195 during May, the Human Rights Committee [HRC] said on Thursday [23 June]. In its monthly report the HRC said violence in KwaZulu/Natal had continued to drop, with the May death toll of 104 the lowest recorded since January 1993.

Despite ongoing tensions in the area, the declining death toll supported the HRC's repeated calls for the lifting of the state of emergency in KwaZulu/Natal, the HRC said. The 195 deaths in May were considerably lower than the 1994 monthly average of 365 and the 1993 monthly average of 367.

There were 73 deaths in the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging], 104 in Natal, and 18 elsewhere, bringing the year total to 1,826.

Of the 195 victims, ten were women and five children. Two white civilians were among those killed in May.

The 226 incidents of violence in May represented a 65 percent decrease from the April figure of 649. This low level of violence had not been experienced since January 1993, the HRC said.

Only one "major massacre" took place in May—the execution-style killing of 12 people in Thokoza, linked to fighting between Self-Defence Units in Katlehong.

The right wing, with no deaths attributed to it in May, appeared to have been neutralised after it caused 24 deaths and 184 injuries during its bombing campaign in April.

Taxi violence, with 14 deaths, increased for the third month in succession.

On human rights, the HRC recorded declining figures in detentions without trial, deaths in police custody and political arrests.

It reported as a violation of the freedom of assembly the order circulated by Eastern Cape Premier Raymond Mhlaba banning civil servants in the province from going on strike.

South African Press Review for 24 Jun

MB2406155194

[Editorial Report]

WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN

Rattling the Keys—"The good news in the Budget is that there is little really bad news," notes an editorial in Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English on 24-30 June on page 28. "This budget is designed to please the 'golden triangle' of business, labour and the state." "In balancing the need for social spending against the demand for fiscal discipline" Keys has "set solid standards for the future." "If there is nothing dramatically stimulatory in the Budget, there is nothing particularly dampening either. By lowering the basic corporation tax rate while doing nothing to alleviate the tax burden of individuals" it "favors investment at the expense of consumption." "Some more details on how Budget planning fits in with the RDP [Research and Development Program] would have been helpful, not only to hesitant foreign investors but to those who are monitoring the programme to see if it will really deliver on its promises."

NEW NATION

New Budget—There is no doubt that the Budget will be assessed on its "commitment to the priorities identified in the Reconstruction and Development Programme" as the RDP is the "flagship of the new government," notes an editorial in Johannesburg NEW NATION in English on 24 June on page 8. However, "it needs to be said from the outset that the budget was disappointing in the extreme, in that it did not go far enough in addressing the plight of the country's estimated 16-million poor citizens." VAT [value added tax] was not mentioned, nor were basic foodstuffs "zero-rated," which means "millions of unemployed" pay the "same VAT as the affluent suburban elite." And the lower corporate taxation "should not be allowed to benefit the corporate sector alone" and "we hope that the government's decision to lower company taxation is interpreted" as a "desire to see greater job creation in the business sector." "We see no logic" in the decision to allocate "at least 13 percent more to defense expenditure" as "we are committed to moving into a reconciliation mode" when "spending on safety and security has increased only 6.5 percent." And the "deficiencies in the tax collection system" must be addressed and overhauled with "urgency."

BUSINESS DAY

Budget To Test Keys' Credibility—"The Budget has met with widespread approval and a great deal of relief," begins the Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 24 June in a page-12 editorial. "But Finance Minister Derek Keys knows that the new government is on trial. The real judgment on its performance will come next March, when Keys tells Parliament how close he came to

fulfilling the expectations he raised." "Keys showed with his first Budget that he intends to keep his promises. If he can do the same with his second under far more difficult circumstances, he will have laid the basis for the economic transformation he seeks. It will not be easy. Keys has a roomful of Cabinet colleagues all itching to spend more than they have been allocated." In conclusion the BUSINESS DAY writes that "Keys has exceptional credibility for a politician, but he is about to be tested. If the new government is to be believed in the years ahead, by the businessmen and investors on whom depend the growth, jobs and tax revenues essential for prosperity and peace, he must ensure the whole Cabinet keeps his promises."

SOWETAN

Budget Balances Needs of Haves/Have-nots—"Finance Minister Mr Derek Keys had to satisfy three major constituencies in his Budget and he has done just that," begins the Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 24 June in a page-12 editorial. "Keys has carefully balanced the needs of the have-nots, of investors and the fears of many white South Africans." The money set aside for the Reconstruction and Development Program's "special projects" "does not seem to be much. But the truth is the Government has paid some attention to the needs of the underdog. The test the Government must face now is how efficiently it can deliver the promises of the RDP to the people who put them in power."

Angola**Progress Reported at Lusaka Peace Negotiations****Talks on Accommodations Continue**

MB2206204994 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 22 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent Alves Antonio in Lusaka]

[Text] Good evening! In Lusaka, there is much expectation on the debate regarding the installation of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] and its high officials. Despite the fact that their differences have been narrowed, the government and UNITA negotiators are still meeting alone in the search for a solution for accommodations for Jonas Savimbi's organization and its senior leaders. This afternoon's meeting began at 1700 and has not yet been concluded. That is why there is great expectation about the meeting. We may give more details about the meeting soon.

Meanwhile, UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye and members of the troika of observers are ready to leave for Cape Town, South Africa. They will leave the Zambian capital early morning tomorrow. In South Africa, the special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola and his team will request assistance from President Nelson Mandela with the Angolan peace talks, taking advantage of his influence and the prestige enjoyed by the new president of that country.

Accord Reached on UNITA Officers

MB2306201494 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] In Lusaka, Zambia, negotiating teams from the government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] concluded discussions on the installation of UNITA and its senior officials in the government. The document will be signed tomorrow with the return from South Africa of Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola and mediator at the peace talks in Lusaka. Alves Antonio has further details.

The leaderships of the negotiating teams from the government and UNITA met this afternoon to conclude discussions on the installation of UNITA and its senior officers. The negotiators finally reached accord at the meeting which curiously took place at the hotel where the government team is staying. The document will be approved and signed tomorrow at a plenary session in the presence of Alioune Blondin Beye and the troika of observers.

Thus, the government and UNITA have just made a positive step forward, and they are now ready to begin discussions on the application of modalities contained in the topic of national reconciliation, which also cover Jonas Savimbi's status. Meanwhile, Alioune Blondin Beye returns to the Zambian capital from South Africa

tomorrow. He left for Cape Town today, accompanied by the troika of observers from the United States, Portugal, and Russia, for consultations with President Nelson Mandela on UNITA-government talks.

Government-UNITA Confrontations Continue**Clashes in Kuito, Lunda Norte**

MB2206180294 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 22 Jun 94

[Italicized passages recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] The clashes are still on in the country. The city of Kuito, Bie Province, is still under intense shelling. Jonas Savimbi's troops are suffering heavy losses on the ground. Our correspondent Abel Abraao reports:

[Abraao] Kuito is still under intense shelling. While Jonas Savimbi's rebel organization continues shelling the defenseless residents, in the military field they are suffering heavy losses because the government forces have had enough of the provocations of National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] bandits. This was revealed to our news desk by Brigadier Damiano Mocume, second commander of the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] regional command in Bie. Brigadier Mocume told Radio Nacional de Angola that over the past few hours the FAA intercepted and destroyed four vehicles carrying war materiel south of the city of Kuito. In Cucho commune, the FAA detachment was attacked but gave a lesson to Jonas Savimbi's soldiers, killing seven rebels and capturing [words indistinct] five 81-mm mortars with shells.

[Announcer] In Ganda District, Benguela Province, UNITA troops yesterday burned more than a dozen trucks belonging to the World Food Program, WFP, carrying food aid. Our correspondent Celestino Matos reports:

[Matos] More than a dozen WFP trucks were attacked and burned by UNITA forces when carrying food aid for Culango residents. The attack took place in the Lobito-Culango road, where the vehicles were carrying basic commodities for residents of that area who face acute food shortages. The extent of the damages caused to the convoy, which was unarmed, is not yet known. The WFP in Benguela has not yet reacted to the UNITA attack.

[Announcer] Lunda Norte Provincial Governor Moises Nele has described the situation as worrisome in his province, taking into account the increase in UNITA operations. Our correspondent reports:

[Unidentified correspondent] Lunda Norte Provincial Governor Moises Nele today described as worrisome the political and military situation in his jurisdiction. Nele who is attending the third Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] regional meeting in Saurimo made his statements, in response to UNITA operations on the road linking Dundo to the diamond areas of

Lusage and Lucapa. That official accused Zaire of involvement in the Angolan conflict.

UNITA Shells Kuito

MB2306083394 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has stepped up its shelling of the city of Kuito and outlying areas. Several people have either been killed or wounded. Clashes between government and UNITA troops have also been reported. The situation has been worsened by an unprecedented shortage of food. An average of 10 people starve to death in Kuito daily. Thousands of undernourished people could have the same fate in the next few days unless relief operations resume.

Meanwhile, UNITA continues to move men, including Zairian mercenaries, and war materiel to mount a large-scale offensive on the city of N'dalatando over the next few hours. Lieutenant General Manuel Jose Neco, commander of the Cuanza Norte Operational Area, says government forces continue to defend the city. UNITA's long-range artillery units are still shelling the city. Government forces have killed eight UNITA soldiers and captured assorted war materiel. Captured UNITA soldiers disclosed that Jonas Savimbi instructed Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola commando units from Huambo to retake the city of N'dalatando before the end of the month to further complicate the Lusaka peace talks.

Air Force Raids Kuito

MB2306083894 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] The air force of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party launched a strong attack on residential areas of the city of Bie [Kuito] on 21 June, killing and wounding many people. Several houses were destroyed. In addition to the war, many people are dying from famine and disease. The situation is worsened by the disruption of World Food Program stocks. [preceding word in English] Warehouses have either been hit by the regime's air force or plundered by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola.

UNITA Claims Convoy Attack in Benguela

MB2306145794 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] On 21 June [words indistinct] 3d regiment, besieged in Bocoio District, through a military convoy made up of 17 vehicles. This attempt failed, however, because the glorious Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] annihilated the convoy [words indistinct] in Benguela Province. Our correspondent Rogerio Chisololo has more details.

The convoy [words indistinct] in Bocoio District, was escorted by three battalions made up of the Angolan Armed Forces, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], and the emergency police. The convoy could not withstand the momentum of our glorious forces, which in 45 minutes of clashes put the enemy troops to flight, leaving behind more than 25 of their comrades dead and many more captured. Our forces also destroyed all the vehicles and a large quantity of war materiel. The residents in the area have been capturing and handing over to our positions FAPLA soldiers, who in their shameful flight try to reach safer places.

More Than 12 Killed in Kuito

MB2406080894 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] In the city of Kuito in Bie Province, despite minor interruptions in the shelling by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], the situation has not improved. More than one dozen people were killed and many more wounded in the city today. After the heavy defeats it has suffered, it is thought that the rebel army is reorganizing to mount another offensive against the city of Kuito and its outskirts. Our correspondent Abel Abraao reports.

[Begin Abraao recording] UNITA on several occasions interrupted the shelling of the city today. This was followed by snipers' fire. A source from the government forces' operational command views the relative calm in the city of Kuito today as a preparation for future actions by the Black Cockerel's troops against the city and its outskirts, after the heavy defeats they suffered over the past 48 hours. Thus, it is expected that the city of Kuito will experience fierce clashes and violent shellings at a time when many people are dying in the war and from lack of medicine. [end recording]

48 Casualties in Malanje Air Raids

MB2406080694 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Text] In a raid carried out by Jose Eduardo dos Santos' air force in Malanje Province on 23 June, 18 civilians were killed and 30 wounded. The raids hit the areas of Quimbamba, Cambondo, and Cabaxi. Our correspondent reports that government troops also killed civilians during an attack in the areas of Cambondo and Terra Nova. National Union for the Total Independence of Angola forces repelled the attacks.

Malawi

Government Begins To Investigate Banda's Dealings

MB2306190894 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 23 Jun 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The new UDF [United Democratic Front] government in Malawi is already beginning to delve into the dealings of ex-President Banda, who was defeated in the multiparty elections last month. As always, when leaders fall, it is amazing what scandals their successors can find to discredit them with. From Blantyre, Willy Zingani telexed this report:

The rope is getting tighter and tighter around Dr. Banda's neck. The new UDF government is trying to discover whether the ex-president abused his position to enrich himself. One thing they claim to have discovered is that Dr. Banda received rent from 11 state houses which didn't belong to him. The new minister of information and broadcasting, Brown Mpinganjira, says he has documents proving that 2.5 million pounds was paid in recent years to Dr. Banda as rent for houses belonging to the state.

The new state president, Bakili Muluzi, hasn't commented on the matter. It is, therefore, not known whether Dr. Banda will be asked to pay back the money or be taken to court to answer charges. Since Dr. Banda's defeat in 17th May general election, Malawians have been shocked by the news that he had spent 8 million pounds on a new state house in the Malawi capital, Lilongwe. Earlier this week, for the first time, journalists were allowed to enter the palaces to see how Dr. Banda lived. In one room, there were six telephone lines, and all rooms, including the garage, were air conditioned.

Mozambique

Renamo's Dhlakama Discusses 'Aversion to War'

MB2306190494 Maputo SAVANA in Portuguese
17 Jun 94 p 18

[Text] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama has returned a happy man from his visit to the United States where he projected a positive image of his movement.

On his return to Maputo, smiling broadly to journalists, the Renamo president said he now had an aversion to war and weapons.

Amid doubts and distrust, journalists insistently asked him whether Renamo has been handing over good quality weapons and whether he is truly demilitarizing his forces. Dhlakama firmly answered that he is no longer interested in taking up arms and living in the bush as a guerrilla.

"I am a politician," he said, "and I am only concerned with organizing my party."

He added: "We do not need to hide weapons. If you could enter my heart, you would know." Amid journalists' doubts he said: "I am speaking from the bottom of my heart."

The leader of the former rebel movement said he does not want war any more. He said in Rome on 4 October 1992 that he avowed in his speech during the signing of the General Peace Accord that he would never again resume war in Mozambique. Now, he said, his major weapon "is the Mozambican people who will defeat the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] if it resorts to war."

"I would like to see the problem of soldiers resolved as soon as possible. I would like to see them confined and demobilized as soon as possible," Dhlakama said, recalling that he is now the president of a party that has placed aside the military option.

In a meeting with journalists at his residence in Maputo, the Renamo leader said his party will not demand money as a precondition for taking part in the election. "We need money for the election but that is not the most important thing," he said. Dhlakama said Renamo only needs money to buy fuel for its vehicles, to buy typewriters and paper, to pay telephone bills and so on.

Regarding areas previously under the control of his movement, Dhlakama said their nonintegration in state administration so far is an act of sabotage by the government. "The government no longer needs those areas because it thinks the people living there may not be ready to vote for Frelimo."

Afonso Dhlakama worked with his cadres in Inhambane and Gaza this week, preparing for the electoral campaign.

Government, Renamo Slow in Demobilizing Troops

MB2306164394 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 1400 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] The process of confining and demobilizing troops from the government and the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] continues slowly. According to figures supplied by the UN Operations in Mozambique, over the past two days the government only confined 421 troops, while Renamo confined seven. During the same period, the government demobilized 373 soldiers, while Renamo demobilized 264 soldiers. So far, the government has demobilized about 19,000 troops, while Renamo has demobilized more than 3,000. The government still has to demobilize about 49 [figure as heard] soldiers and Renamo about 6,000. International members of the Supervision and Control Commission [CSC] in Maputo have expressed the fear that the government may not conclude the confinement and demobilization of its troops within the deadline.

CSC Expresses Concern Over Delay

MB2306131194 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 0900 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] The international members of the Supervision and Control Commission [CSC] said in Maputo yesterday that they were worried about the possibility of the

government not being able to complete the confinement and demobilization of its troops within the timetable that it agreed to fulfill. A communique received in our newsroom says the timetable already represents a one-month delay in relation to the dates set by the May 1994 UN Security Council resolution. The international members of the CSC noted that between 14 and 21 June only 821 men reported to government assembly points. Taking into account the personnel involved, the joint communique said 11,448 troops still need to report to the assembly points. The deadline for the confinement and demobilization of troops expires on 30 June.

UN's Ajello Said Worried by Delays

MB2406135394 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Text] Aldo Ajello, UN secretary general representative in Mozambique, is still worried about the slowness in confinement of government and Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] troops. He said only 655 soldiers have been confined this week, a figure which he described as marginal considering that to comply with its plan the government should demobilize 1,500 soldiers per day until 1 July. Aldo Ajello said the government pledged to comply with the timetable, though he believes he ought to meet the president of the Republic to discuss the issue and find satisfactory and realistic solutions. The meeting should take place before Chissano leaves for Lisbon where Lusophone countries are scheduled to hold a conference.

Aldo Ajello said 2,427 soldiers from both sides were demobilized this week. It has been estimated that 4,076 soldiers from both sides will be demobilized next week.

He said the 13,776 government soldiers demobilized before the signing of the peace accord will receive demobilization allowances. As of 29 June, they should report to the Reintegration Commission [Core] to be registered. At a meeting yesterday, the Supervision and Control Commission ratified the plan to assist in the reintegration of demobilized soldiers.

The plan provides for a minimum income for demobilized troops to encourage the latter to live in areas of their choice, thereby restricting migration into cities. The plan is also designed to supplement any other schemes adopted by Core to assist demobilized troops with means other than financial ones.

The reintegration scheme includes a financial plan that provides for fixed monthly payments in local currency over a 18-month period. Payments will begin three months after demobilization and will cover 69,140 government and Renamo troops.

The overall cost of the scheme has been estimated at \$19,032,580. The governments of Denmark, FRG, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and of Switzerland have contributed to that fund.

Ajello said he was pleased with the Mozambican Government's decision to pay pensions to Renamo troops maimed during the war, noting that that is a significant sign of national reconciliation. He said government teams, with UN Operations in Mozambique logistical assistance, have already begun operating in centers for war-maimed soldiers.

Election Commission Chairman on Electoral Process

MB2306201294 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Excerpt] At a news conference in Maputo today, Dr. Brazao Mazula, chairman of the National Election Commission [CNE], spoke of the latest developments on the electoral process in the country. Germano de Sousa reports:

[De Sousa] This afternoon CNE Chairman Brazao Mazula told correspondents that 20 percent of voting age Mozambicans have already registered throughout the country. This percentage represents 1.7 million voters. Mazula said at the news conference that a new timetable will be announced soon for the registration of a specified group of voters, who in view of circumstances cannot register within the established timetable. The people who will benefit from this include refugees still in neighboring countries and soldiers confined in different assembly areas waiting to hear their fate.

Two issues considered important did not have definite answers at the news conference. They are the issues of emigrants who still do not have approval to vote in the election and the trust fund for the operation of political parties. Mazula said these two issues are discussed in almost all the CNE meetings. Mazula also said that the CNE has not yet issued guidelines on the operation of mobile voter registration teams, an issue which raises doubts about the voting process by the electorate in the areas concerned. [passage omitted]

Sudanese Said Promoting Fundamentalism Among Muslims

MB2206133594 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 13 Jun 94 p 3

[Article by Pedro Nacuo]

[Excerpts] In northern Nampula Province, Islam has been experiencing an unprecedented crisis over the past few years. It is now clear that there is division among its followers. There are three leading sects—namely, the Mozambique Islamic Congress, the Mozambique Islamic Council, and the Muhammadan Association (Sunni sect). [passage omitted]

Leading Islamic figures in the Isle of Mozambique and in the port city of Nacala say: "We are being invaded by

Islamic fundamentalism. The whole world knows the signs of it, notably those relating to radicalism which leads to violence."

They made an accusation: "It is the Sudanese who have been introducing Islamic fundamentalism here in Nacala and in the Isle of Mozambique..."

We asked [Mozambique Islamic Council member] Habibo Amade for an explanation.

He said: "As a matter of fact the danger lies in that interpretation because it has been fabricated in the West. We ought to be very careful and realize that right now, in line with what has been reported in the Western press, Islam is regarded in the West as more dangerous because communism is no longer around. So, there will be new fabrications and subtly they will try to infiltrate us."

"Why would the West be so interested in, so to speak, overthrowing or even weakening Islam?"

"The example from Bosnia is more than clear about that. Now that there is an arms embargo, the West is doing its best to prevent those people from defending themselves because they do not want the establishment of an Islamic state in that part of the world. They say it is a violent society and make other accusations like the ones about Iran, Algeria, and other Islamic countries." [passage omitted]

Namibia

Border Incident Leads to 'Explosive' Situation

MB2206110294 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 16 Jun 94 pp 1, 2

[Article by Christo Retief]

[Excerpts] An explosive situation exists in eastern Caprivi after details surfaced of an incident involving a strange armed force supported by an attack helicopter of unknown origin, which apparently attempted to terrorize the Mafwe chief at Linyanti. The household of Chief Boniface Mamili, on the banks of the Linyanti River, which forms the border between Namibia and Botswana, was allegedly held captive for several hours by armed men combing the surrounding areas in search of members of the Angolan resistance movement, UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], while a helicopter equipped with weapons circled over

the tribal settlement. The president of the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] in Namibia, Mr. Mishake Muyongo, who is presently visiting the eastern Caprivi, yesterday described the incident as sufficient proof of SWAPO's [South-West African People's Organization] secret missions to intimidate political opponents and to fuel chaos in Caprivi where SWAPO currently enjoys no political support.

Yesterday the Namibian police strongly denied any allegations of police and army involvement in the alleged incident and confirmed that the incident is being investigated at the highest level. According to government sources, Minister of Home Affairs Lucas Pohamba and Police Inspector General Raonga Andima were kept fully informed yesterday about developments during the joint investigation by police, the Intelligence Service, and the Defense Force. Yesterday DIE REPUBLIKEIN could not succeed in independently confirming the incident but inhabitants and community leaders in Katima Mulilo suggested that members of the Botswana Defense Force stationed at the Chobe National Park, or even a reconnaissance and fighter unit of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] army in Angola, could be responsible for the incident. [passage omitted]

Mr. Muyongo said that according to preliminary information at his disposal, a secret informant of SWAPO notified the police at Katima Mulilo that members of UNITA were hiding in the vicinity of the chief's residence. In reaction to this information a helicopter and at least three land cruiser vehicles full of armed "police-men" were sent to the town. The men in the vehicles searched the bush around Mr. Mamili's residence in military formation after a helicopter circled the house. After the unsuccessful search they disappeared and nothing was heard from them since. [passage omitted]

Inhabitants of Katima Mulilo said yesterday that the Botswana Air Force operating from the Kasane Airport near Linyanti often violates Namibian borders and that these violations are usually accompanied by patrols into Caprivi from the Chobe Nature Reserve. According to these inhabitants, high-level talks recently took place between senior officers of the Namibian Police, the Defense Force, and Intelligence, with their counterparts from Botswana. The assistant to the secretary general of the police, General Martin Pool, yesterday confirmed these talks, adding that the group of officers made use of a Botswana Air Force helicopter in their investigation. He strongly denied, however, that the helicopter entered Namibian airspace. [passage omitted]

Liberia

Unknown Group Launches Sea Raid on ECOMOG

AB2306221094 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 23 Jun 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The skirmishing in Liberia seems to go on every day without a break. ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia], Charles Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peacekeeping force, all seem to be involved in shoot-outs in various parts of the country. Now an unknown group has tried to launch a raid by sea on Monrovia. From Monrovia, Nii Nartey Allison telephoned this report.

According to a spokesman for the African peacekeeping force, more than 100 people suspected of trying to launch a nighttime seaborne attack on their headquarters on Tuesday [21 June] had been arrested. Details surrounding the incident remain scanty, but the spokesman for the peacekeepers, Major Edema Syllo today confirmed that some of the suspects had escaped after a heavy exchange of gunfire with the peacekeepers' gunboat which had moved in from the nearby Free Port of Monrovia. He said that those arrested are still being interrogated and that their identity had not yet been established.

Maj. Syllo said about the same time as the seaborne attack, a formation of peacekeeping troops in the Harbel area had come under fire from fighters of Charles Taylor's NPFL. On the ULIMO front, he said that peacekeeping troops had moved into Brewerville late on Wednesday [22 June] after a fierce gun battle in the area between rival ULIMO factions. He added: Seven bodies were discovered in a well there.

Meanwhile, the field commander of the African peacekeeping force, Maj. General John Inengier, today expressed his objections to warring factions using Monrovia as a base for their propaganda and for operations. He said: If they go on, this could lead to a legal and military problem for ECOMOG under the Cotonou Accord.

Nigeria

Police Begin Investigation Into Abiola's Activities

AB2306174594 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English
1700 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] The police today announced the arrest of Chief Moshood Abiola. The police public relations officer at the (?corps) headquarters said the arrest was effected at his Ikeja residence last night when he resurfaced from his

hideout. The police had earlier this month declared Chief Abiola wanted and called for information that could lead to his arrest.

The police also said that the activities of Chief Abiola and his group transcended the quest for the actualization of the 12 June phenomenon. It said the activities included well-laid down plans to cause a breakdown of law and order as well as the forceful overthrow of the Federal Military Government.

In a fresh statement today, the police expressed appreciation to the entire public for the cooperation they received during the search for Abiola and assured that the entire activities of Chief Abiola from 12 June last year to date were under thorough investigation and advised members of the public to go about their normal businesses and report suspicious elements to the police.

Opposition Parties Hold 'Urgent' Talks

AB2306184594 Paris AFP in English 1816 GMT 23 Jun 94

[By Jacques Pinto]

[Excerpts] Lagos, June 23 (AFP)—Nigerian opposition parties held urgent consultations as international condemnation poured in Thursday [23 June] after police arrested Moshood Abiola, the opposition leader widely believed to have won last June's cancelled presidential election.

Chief Abiola was arrested at his Lagos home after addressing a rally in the business metropolis and taken early Thursday to the federal capital Abuja, his aides said. The Moslem millionaire had resurfaced just hours before after escaping house arrest and going into hiding 10 days earlier on the anniversary of the election cancelled by General Sani Abacha's military regime.

A leader of the National Democratic Campaign (Nadeco) who asked not to be named told AFP the opposition was meeting urgently to decide a course of action and would "definitely" challenge the arrest. "Street demonstrations either Thursday or Friday in Lagos by supporters of Abiola...cannot be ruled out," the Nadeco leader said.

The embassy of the United States, first foreign power to condemn the arrest, declared it raised "very serious questions with respect to the Nigerian government's commitment to restoring unhindered, civilian democracy and resolving the political crisis created by the annulment of the June 12, 1993, presidential election".

"The United States denounces this action and believes that all parties to the political process should be allowed to speak freely on all issues," said a statement made available to AFP.

In London, the Foreign Office said Britain was "very concerned" at the reports from here and hoped the

developments would "not harm the search" for a way back toward "accountable civilian government."

Abacha meanwhile pressed on with a tour of Nigeria's main military bases begun Wednesday to assure himself of the armed forces' loyalty, national radio reported.

The tour came ahead of a Constitutional Conference scheduled for Monday in Abuja, which he has presented as the keystone of his program to give up power by stages but which the pro-democracy opposition grouped around Nadeco has dismissed as a farce. [passage omitted]

He visited the Third Armoured Division stationed in Jos, capital of the central Plateau state, and the Second Mechanized Division stationed at Ibadan, 140 kilometers (80 miles) north of Lagos, the Nigerian press said. The heads of the army, navy and air force attended the meetings.

Abacha also announced special end-of-service bonuses and deliveries of equipment and uniforms to the troops, the daily Guardian said.

Abiola, who declared himself president and commander of the armed forces on June 11 in defiance to the Abacha regime, had pledged to some 2,000 cheering people on Wednesday that he would present a government. It was his first public appearance since he disappeared on June 11. [passage omitted]

Other opposition leaders arrested during a month of growing resistance to Abacha's regime have been detained in Lagos and charged with treason in the federal high court. [passage omitted]

Hundreds Stage Undisrupted Protest in Lagos

AB2306185594 Paris AFP in English 1834 GMT 23 Jun 94

[Text] Lagos, June 23 (AFP)—Hundreds of youths chanting anti-government slogans and calling for the immediate release of Chief Moshood Abiola late Thursday [23 June] held a peaceful march along major streets in the commercial nerve-centre of Lagos.

They carried placards reading "release Abiola our president now," "Abacha must go," and "away with military regime."

The police did not disrupt the march, which was the first physical reaction to the arrest of Chief Abiola in the morning hours of Thursday.

Senegal

First Group of Soldiers Leaves Dakar for Rwanda

AB2406094594 Dakar PANA in French 0913 GMT 24 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Dakar, 24 Jun (APS-SEN/PANA)—About 40 Senegalese soldiers left Dakar this morning for Rwanda, where they will participate in the French humanitarian mission there, it was observed at the airport of the Senegalese capital. This first contingent, a section of the Senegalese Army, was seen off upon departure by Armed Forces Minister Madieng Khary Dieng. It will be followed by others, reliable sources stated, specifying that Senegal is expected to commit 300 men in the French operation placed under the auspices of the United Nations. These sources add that the Senegalese soldiers will be based at Goma, a town in eastern Zaire, on the border with Rwanda. [passage omitted]

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